# Realm High Income Fund January 2021



## **Fund Objective**

The Realm High Income Fund is a fixed income strategy, that invests in domestic investment grade asset backed securities, bank-issued securities and corporate & government bonds. The objective of the Fund is to deliver investors a consistent return (net of fees and after franking) of 3% over the RBA cash rate through the market cycle.

#### **Net Performance**

Period	Ordinary Units (incl. franking)	Wholesale Units (incl. franking)	RBA Cash Rate Return
1 Month	0.13%	0.17%	0.01%
3 Month	1.19%	1.31%	0.03%
6 Months	2.43%	2.66%	0.09%
1 Year	4.38%	4.84%	0.27%
3 Years p.a	3.92%	4.36%	0.96%
5 Years p.a	4.33%	4.78%	1.21%
Since Inception p.a*	4.88%	4.85%	1.72%

<sup>\*</sup> Past performance is not indicative of future performance. \*Ordinary units Inception 26 September 2012. Wholesale units Inception 2 October 2013.

## Fund Update

Cash and Short-Term Liquidity Weighting:  $\downarrow$  Decreased to 20.53%. Overall, net inflows were allocated to credit opportunities in corporate and structured credit.

Interest Rate Duration Position:  $\uparrow$  IRD positioning increased moderately to 1.90 years. Generally we use interest rate exposure for diversification purposes, however at present we are holding a more aggressive position in interest rates as part of our hedging portfolio.

Corporate & Subordinated Debt Allocation: ↑ Weighting to corporate and sub debt increased to 36.63% from 33.7%. Markets continue to be driven by the excess liquidity injected by central banks to counteract COVID19. The result has been that the majority of corporate credit markets are now tighter than prepandemic levels. With benchmark indices starting to look expensive the key focus of the team is on rotating the portfolio in line with the firms relative value philosophy.

Residential Mortgage Backed Securities (RMBS): ↓ RMBS allocation decreased slightly over the month from 29.28% to 28.7%, driven by fund growth coinciding with a lull in issuance around the New Years break. Performance of the sector continues to be strong, with both arrears indices and COVID hardship numbers performing well. Yields once again continued to tightened in public markets. This continues to be driven by three key themes; the strong offshore presence within the Australian market, strong flows into income based products searching for high quality assets with robust yields and the continued view of low asset supply into 2021. Secondary markets remain highly active, with the level of reverse enquiry searching for assets increasing. There was one new issuance late in the month, which is garnering strong interest due to the aforementioned technical factors.

The Government's \$15bn Structured Finance Support Fund was not used to support any public deals in either primary or secondary markets over the month but continues to exist to support the market where needed. The Forbearance SPV saw no additional subscribers accessing forbearance support.

#### **Fund Statistics**

Running Yield	3.58%
Yield to Maturity	3.64%
Volatility†	1.89%
Interest rate duration	1.90
Credit duration	2.94
Average Credit Rating	BBB+
Number of positions	209
Average position exposure	0.39%
Worst Month*	-1.19%
Best Month*	1.22%
Sharpe ratio <sup>ð</sup>	3.14

Calculated on Ordinary Units unless otherwise stated. \*Since Inception 26 September 2012. †Trailing 12 Months Calculated on Daily observations. Since Inception Calculated on Daily observations



#### **Portfolio Composition**



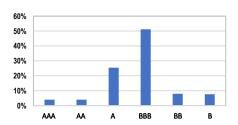
- Cash (16.22%)
  Commercial Paper (4.31%)
  Government Bonds (0.00%)
- Bank T1 (10.42%)
- Corporate Bond (13.24%)
- Subordinated Debt (23.39%)
- ABS Public (3.13%)
- ABS Private (0.40%)
- RMBS Private (11.35%)
- RMBS Public (17.53%)
- \*Yellow box reflects level of liquidity available within the fund

#### Maturity Profile



- At Call to 6 Months (27.97%)
- 6 Months to 3 Years (23.74%)
- 3 Years to 5 Years (25.87%)
- 5 Years to 10 Years (22.42%)
- 10 Years + (0.00%)

#### Credit Quality



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Additional Tier 1 (AT1) Exposures: ↓ AT1 exposure decreased slightly to 10.42% from 10.96%. Supply/demand dynamics continued to be supportive of the AT1 market over the month. Albeit spreads are now beginning to approach 2015's market tights. Slight reduction in the sector as securities in the USD market rallied into levels where we were comfortable taking profit.

Asset Backed Securities (ABS): ↑ Our ABS allocation increased slightly from 3.45% last month to 3.53% at the end of the month. Exposures continue to be monitored closely. The sector outperformed expectations through the COVID period, with deferrals comparing favourably versus other more conventional types of risk, such as mortgages.

Targeted risk across the Fund: ↓ Targeted portfolio risk decreased to 1.57% from 1.66% over the month. Portfolio movements along with movements in individual node data, from an overall calming of market volatility, contributed to this decrease in risk.

#### Market Outlook

Financial markets began the year optimistically before re-assessing this in the final days of the month. The US, European and Australian equity markets finished largely unchanged. The USD rallied. Commodities were mixed. Most notably, government yield curves steepened considerably and Australian 10 year bond yields moved from 0.92% to 1.09%. Australian corporate bond spreads continued to rally over the month although bank senior and subordinated paper held steady, as did the domestic structured credit market.

The outcome of the US Senate run-off elections in Georgia produced a result which was favourable for the Democratic party, giving it control of the Congress and the Presidency, and increased the prospect of significant fiscal intervention. There is strong evidence of supply side frictions developing. Risk markets generally rallied despite the prospect of higher corporate taxes. The virulence of the UK and South African covid varieties, which have set these economies back significantly, became of greater concern elsewhere. Sentiment was also affected by revelations about vaccine production and distribution difficulties. Australia, authorities continued to implement strong measures against outbreaks which have adversely affected consumption and tourism.

The Australian economy remains in a strong condition, under the circumstances. Households are spending when they can, housing markets are healthy, banks are prepared to lend and are very well capitalised and businesses are hiring full time roles at a greater pace. Globally, we believe that the US may endure a downgrade to near term expectations if estimates are correct that 0.5% of new covid cases were of the UK variety. Whilst the longer-term outlook of a strong recovery towards (but not reaching) the pre-covid baseline remains appropriate through 2022, a downward revision of this type of magnitude is ordinarily associated with uncomfortable volatility.

We believe that credit is fully priced at this time. We retain high levels of liquidity and are positively biased to deploy it into moderate market weakness. We note that the market narrative is shifting increasingly towards the timing of unwinding QE support. There is economic rationale for this, but we believe it is not an immediate concern.

We continue to deploy portfolio risk more heavily into corporate and subordinated financial debt. We have also been able to identify innovative opportunities in the structured asset book. Nonetheless, we have moved to increase protection levels in response to our observations that credit spreads appear tight, even in the presence of strong monetary support.

#### Sector Allocation

Sector	Asset Allocation Range	SAA Target
Cash	0% - 100%	10%
Government Bonds	0% - 100%	10%
Corporate Bonds	0% - 60%	10%
Corporate Hybrids	0% - 10%	5%
Bank Tier 1 Hybrids	0% - 25%	15%
Sub Debt Hybrids	0% - 25%	15%
RMBS	0% - 60%	30%
ABS	0% - 20%	5%

#### **Fund Details**

Distribution Frequency: Monthly

Liquidity: Daily

Buy/Sell: 0.05% / 0.05%

Direct Minimum Investment:

Ordinary Units - \$25,000 Wholesale Units - \$1,000,000

Adviser Units - \$25,000 mFund Units - \$10,000

Inception Date: 26.9.2012 Fund size: AUD \$945 million

APIR Codes:

Ordinary Units - OMF0001AU Wholesale Units - OMF0009AU Adviser Units - OMF0018AU

- OMF1394AU mFund Units

#### Management Fees (inc. GST):

Ordinary Units - 1.20% Wholesale Units - 0.77% Adviser Units - 0.77% mFunds Units - 0.77%

Responsible Entity: One Managed Investment

Funds Ltd Custodian: JP Morgan

#### Unit Pricing and Unit Price History:

https://www.realminvestments.com.au/ourproducts/realm-high-income-fund/

#### Platform Availability

- BT Wrap
- BT Panorama
- Credit Suisse
- Crestone First Wrap
- Hub24
- Macquarie Wrap
- MLC Navigator
- MLC Wrap
- Netwealth
- Powerwrap
- Praemium
- uXchange Xplore Wealth
- mFund: RLM03
- Australian Money Market (Retail

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